

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COPENH 07154 021855Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /071 W
-----035457 030955Z /23

R 021633Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5530
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 7154

E.O.: 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, DA
SUBJ: DEATH OF DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY CHAIRMAN

1. THE DANISH RADIO REPORTED THIS MORNING THAT KNUD JESPERSEN, PARLIAMENTARY FLOORLEADER AND NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY, DIED LAST NIGHT AT AGE 51 FOLLOWING SEVERAL MONTHS OF SERIOUS ILLNESS.

2. IT HAS BEEN KNOWN TO THE PARTY FOR SOME TIME, THE REPORT ADDED, THAT JESPERSEN'S ILLNESS WAS TERMINAL, AND THIS WAS THE REASON FOR LAST WEEK'S PARTY DECISION TO CONSTITUTE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER AND PARTY SECREAARY IB NØRLUND AS NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER JØRGEN JENSEN AS FLOORLEADER.

3. WHILE SERIOUS SPECULATION ON A POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR TO JESPERSEN WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRESS UNTIL TOMORROW, THERE WERE ALREADY PREDICTIONS LAST WEEK THAT JENSEN WOULD BE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 COPENH 07154 021855Z

ELECTED THE NEW PARTY CHAIRMAN IN CASE JESPERSEN SHOULD HAVE TO BE REPLACED. AT THE SAME TIME, NØRLUND WAS CITED AS HAVING SAID HE DID NOT WANT THE JOB.

4. JØRGEN JENSEN, 57, HAS BEEN NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE DANISH AUTOMOBILE MECHANICS' ASSOCIATION AND IS A MEMBER OF THE MAIN BOARD OF THE DANISH METALWORKERS' UNION. HE WAS

ELECTED TO THE FOLKETING IN 1975. JENSEN HAS BEEN KNOWN
PRIMARILY FOR HIS ROLE IN THE SO-CALLED CHAIRMEN'S INITIATIVE,
AN OFF-AND-ON ACTIVE GROUP OF COMMUNIST-LED UNION SHOP
STEWARDS OPPOSED TO THE POLICIES OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC-
OPERATED DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO).

5. JESPERSEN'S DEMISE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL HURT THE COMMUNIST
PARTY AT THE POLLS. BOTH A COLORFUL AND A HANDSOME POLITICIAN,
HE APPEALED TO PARTS OF THE DANISH ELECTORATE ON HIS IMAGE
ALONE. THE RELATIVELY UNKNOWN JENSEN MAY FIND IT AS DIFFICULT
TO SUCCEED JESPERSEN AS JESPERSEN DID TO SUCCEED FORMER LEADER
AKSEL LARSEN FOLLOWING HIS OUSTER IN 1958. THAT SUCCESSION
WAS ONE OF THE FACTORS THAT COST THE PARTY 13 YEARS WITHOUT
REPRESENTATION IN THE FOLKETING.
DEAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEATHS, COMMUNISTS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COPENH07154
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770449-0108
Format: TEL
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712101/aaaadhww.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 44dbcefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 106507
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEATH OF DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY CHAIRMAN
TAGS: PINT, DA, (JESPERSEN, KNUD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/44dbcefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009